



STATE OF MARYLAND

Community Health Resources Commission

45 Calvert Street, Room 336 • Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Larry Hogan, Governor – Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Allan Anderson, M.D., Chair – Mark Luckner, Executive Director

March 16, 2018

Grants Awarded by Community Health Resources Commission FY 2018 CHRC Call for Proposals

Essential Health Services

Choptank Community Health System (Caroline County; total award \$240,000). This project would address dental workforce challenges in a rural area of the state by expanding access to pediatric dental services through a new dental practice in Denton. The project involves a partnership with the University of Maryland School of Dentistry to recruit a dental fellow to provide pediatric dental services in their existing clinics in Federalsburg, Goldsboro, and Cambridge. This project is innovative, could offer a replicable model in other rural communities facing dental care shortages, and is financially sustainable.

Esperanza Center (Catholic Charities) (Baltimore City; total award \$150,000). This project would increase access to culturally competent, patient-centered care in a free clinic in Baltimore City, perhaps the only one in the state that serves only low-income uninsured individuals. The project would increase the number of hours of staffing for the clinic to provide primary care as well as referrals to specialty care and services to address social determinants of health. The program at the Esperanza Center offers the strong potential of reducing avoidable hospital utilization for primary care services by the target population.

Wicomico County Health Department/EMS (Wicomico County; total award \$90,000). This project would reduce preventable 911 calls through the use of a team consisting of an emergency medical technician and a registered nurse. The team would identify frequent callers to 911 for non-emergent conditions and would conduct welfare checks, case management, safety planning, and refer patients to primary care physicians, medical specialists, and, if necessary, in-home care providers. The program offers the potential to help reduce avoidable EMS and hospital utilization services and is replicable in other rural areas of the state.

Prince George's County Fire/EMS (Prince George's County; total award \$175,000). This Mobile Integrated Health project would reduce preventable 911 calls through the use of community paramedics who would interact with at-risk residents who frequently call 911 for non-emergent conditions. The integrated health team would connect these residents with quality healthcare services and other necessary community supports. The program offers the

potential to help reduce avoidable EMS and hospital utilization services and is replicable in other areas of the state.

Talbot County Health Department (Talbot County; total award \$175,000). This project would establish a Rural Health Collaborative working across five counties (Queen Anne's, Kent, Talbot, Caroline, and Dorchester) to improve the integration of clinical, social, and preventative health systems. The Collaborative would focus on improving health care for low-income residents and would develop models for integration that can be duplicated in other rural areas.

Community Clinic, Inc. (Prince George's County; total award \$170,000). This project would implement the CenteringPregnancy project for at-risk, low-income minority and immigrant women in northern Prince George's County, the jurisdiction in the state with the lowest percentage of women receiving adequate prenatal care. Women participating in the CenteringPregnancy program would benefit from a supportive network of other women going through the same experience. Services would be provided at CCI's clinic in Greenbelt. The program is replicable with the target population in other areas of the state and offers the potential to help improve birth outcomes.

Mary's Center (Prince George's/Montgomery County; total award \$170,000). This project would implement the evidence-based CenteringPregnancy and CenteringParenting programs for expectant and new Latina mothers in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. The group care programs provide prenatal and pediatric services and help participants to increase their personal health care autonomy and build contacts and social bonds with other women. The program is replicable with the target population in other areas of the state and offers the potential to help improve birth outcomes.

Greater Baden Medical Services, Inc. (Prince George's County; total award \$300,000). This project would increase access to dental care and nutritional counseling for low-income adults in Prince George's County, the county with the lowest concentration of dental professionals per 100,000 residents when compared to other jurisdictions in Maryland. The project would partner with Lyft to provide rides to appointments for residents lacking access to transportation and would provide nutritional counseling aimed at assisting individuals in choosing to make healthier lifestyle choices.

Behavioral Health Services

Atlantic General Hospital (Lower Shore; total award \$175,000). This project would develop a new interdisciplinary chronic pain management center that would provide access to somatic health, behavioral health, and therapy services to help patients relieve chronic pain without the use of opioid medications. For those with Substance Use Disorders, the intervention offers a concentrated outpatient program using a multi-disciplinary approach to reduce or discontinue the use of opioids for pain management. This program is innovative and could be replicable in other areas of the state.

Wells House (Frederick/Washington County; total award \$103,615). This project would add somatic care services at two addiction treatment facilities in Western Maryland. Many of the patients at Wells House have complex medical needs, and providing integrated behavioral and somatic care could lead to a reduction in avoidable hospital utilization for this vulnerable population. The project would utilize a nurse practitioner and medical assistant to perform health assessments, provide necessary health education, and address other somatic health issues. This program is replicable at other addiction facilities in the state and would help improve health outcomes for individuals needing substance use treatment services.

Upper Bay Counseling and Support Services (Cecil County; total award \$300,000). This project would provide integration of behavioral health and somatic care in Cecil County by placing psychotherapists in the offices of Union Primary Care, the largest primary care provider in Cecil County. The project implements the Screenings, Brief Interventions, and Referrals to Treatment (SBIRT Model), and the target population would be those who have substance use issues. This project would expand access to integrated behavioral health services in a rural and underserved area of the state.

Potomac Health Care Foundation (Baltimore City; total award \$210,000). This project would establish a 16-bed specialty recovery house in West Baltimore for underserved, low-income young adults with opioid addiction to provide a supervised, developmentally appropriate recovery environment with support for outpatient treatment. The project would provide an immediate linkage to care from the ED or hospitalization with a "warm handoff" and rapid initiation of treatment, including residential recovery support and buprenorphine as needed. While at the center, patients would benefit from an on-campus community treatment facility which would provide a full spectrum of behavioral health treatment for opioid addiction and co-occurring disorders. The project would expand access to integrated services in Baltimore City, an area of the state that is particularly in need of these services.

Anne Arundel County Mental Health Agency (Anne Arundel County; total award \$500,000). This project would expand the existing, innovative "Safe Stations" initiative through the addition of another mobile crisis team in Anne Arundel County to serve more individuals. The Safe Stations Initiative allows any individual with Substance Use Disorders seeking treatment to walk into any County police or fire station to seek assistance. The new mobile crisis team would link those seeking treatment to recovery services, care coordination, and peer support.

Food Security

La Clinica del Pueblo (Prince George's County; total award \$140,000). This project would implement a school and community-focused project that uses culturally and linguistically appropriate strategies to increase knowledge about healthy lifestyles, increases access to healthy foods, and encourages engagement in physical activity targeting 720 low-income Latino high school students and families. The program would create a Health

Promotion club with Youth Health Promoters in schools, health education workshops at parents' meetings, annual intergenerational soccer tournaments and health fairs, and clinical-based activities, with one-on-one health education sessions targeting mothers or women of childbearing age.

Anne Arundel County Department of Health (Anne Arundel County; total award \$120,000).

This project focuses on increasing access to healthy foods and provides information about healthy cooking in Brooklyn Park. The project would provide access to nutritious, shelf-stable food options, fresh vegetables and fruit, as well as English and Spanish nutrition and cooking skills education. Transportation to the food pantry and classes would be made available, as well as technical assistance for four Anne Arundel County public schools and two community organizations via free/subsidized community-supported agriculture.